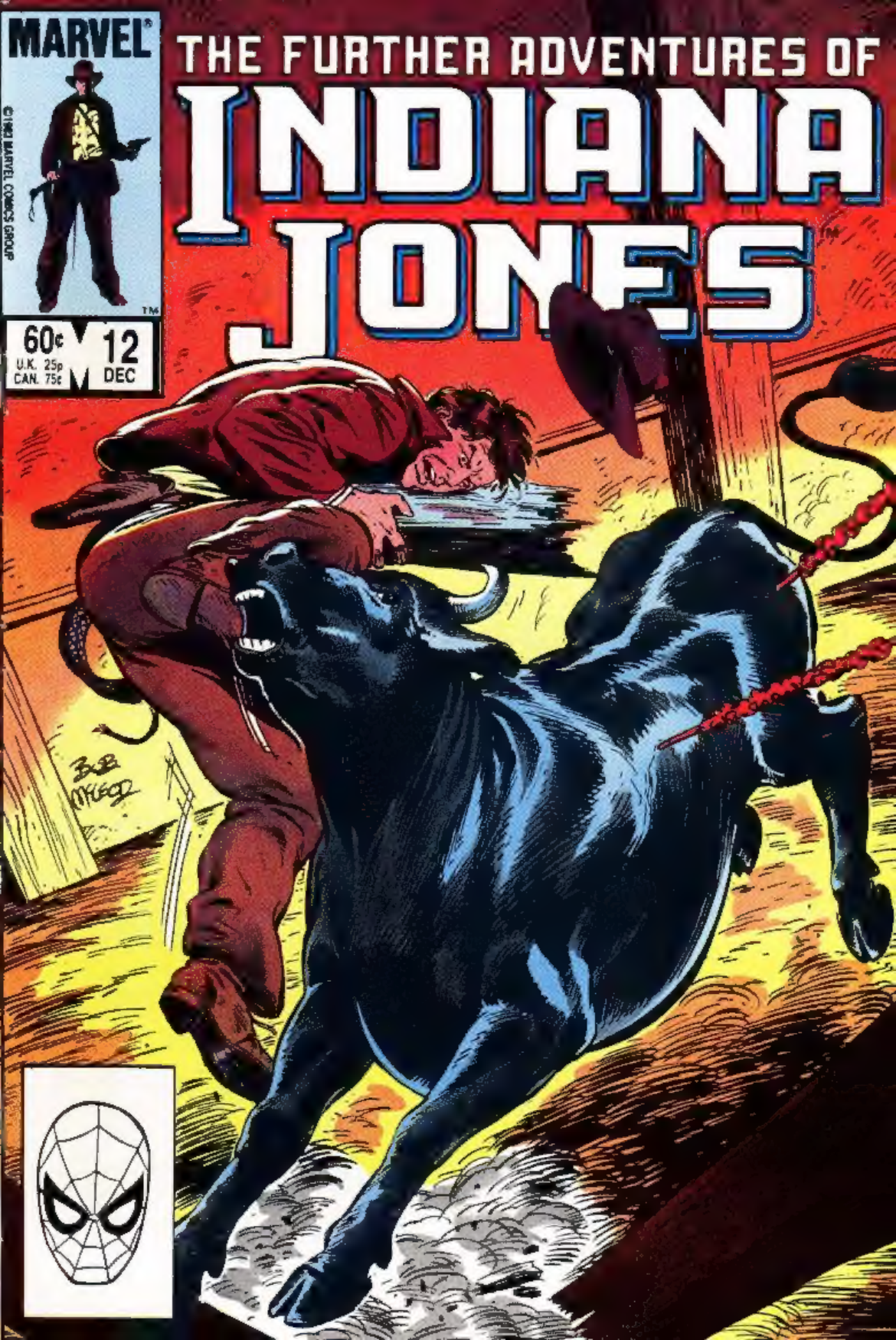
MARVEL
THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF
INDIANA JONES
60¢
U.K. 25p
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12
DEC
BOB MCLEOD

INDIANA JONES IS AN ARCHEOLOGIST. A SEEKER AFTER HISTORY, AND IN THAT CAPACITY HE HAD COME TO SPAIN IN SEARCH OF A LEGENDARY ARTIFACT AS OLD AS CHRISTIANITY ITSELF — FOR DOCTOR JONES IS INDEED A MAN WHO REVERES THE PAST.
BUT HERE, IN A DEAD-END CORRIDOR IN THE STOCK PEN OF A BARCELONA BULLRING, HE MAY SOON LOSE WHAT IS LEFT OF HIS FUTURE!
SSSNNRORT
Stan Lee PRESENTS:
THE FOURTH NAIL
Chapter 2:
SWORDS AND SPIKES!

DAVID MICHELINIE	KERRY GAMMILL	LUKE McDONNELL	MEL CANDIDO	JOE ROSEN	BOB SHAREN	LOUISE JONES	JIM SHOOTER
PLOT / SCRIPT	PENCIL ART, PP 1-10	PENCIL ART, PP 11-22	FINISHED ART	LETTERS	COLORS	EDITOR	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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THAT BULL DIDN'T GET LOOSE ON ITS OWN, NOT WITH THOSE DARTS STICKIN' IN ITS BACK! SOMEONE WANTS ME RIPPED OPEN!
BUT WHO?
"COULDN'T BE TORINO --THAT LITTLE GYPSY DID LEAD ME HERE BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED, BUT HE'S NO KILLER!
"TOO BAD I CAN'T SAY THE SAME FOR THE BULL!"
BUT QUESTIONS CAN WAIT-- RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT TO STAY ALIVE!
AND SINCE MY REVOLVER GOT LOST WHEN TORI AN' I FOUGHT THAT MOB IN THE CATHEDRAL,* THE ONLY WAY I'M GONNA STAY OUT OF A GRAVE--
*LAST ISSUE.
-- IS TO STAY OUT OF THAT BULL'S WAY!
IF I CAN JUST PULL MYSELF UP, THEN WAIT UNTIL HE GETS TIRED, I--
CHRRRRR-
-AKK
UNF!
THUMP
BLAST! THERE'S NO PLACE ELSE TO GO!

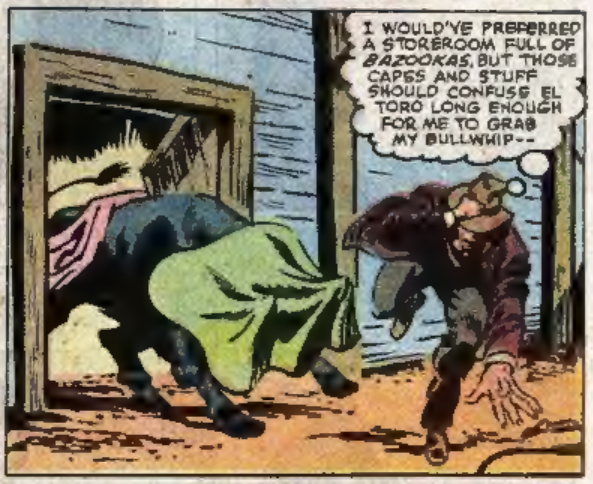
GOTTA MAKE A STAND! USE WHATEVER I'VE GOT!
NOW!
WHILMA!
CHONK
THE BEAM'S HOLDING -- BUT IT WON'T LAST LONG! I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOME OTHER WAY TO STAY CLEAR OF THOSE HORNS!
IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT I'VE HEARD THAT PORTUGUESE MATADORS GRAB A BULL'S TAIL WHEN THEY'RE DOWN, THAT THAT KEEPS 'EM AWAY FROM ITS HEAD! SO I GUESS IF IT WORKS FOR THEM...
AGH! TROUBLE IS THAT MATADORS WORK IN AN OPEN RING!
WHRAK
THEY DON'T HAVE WALLS TO WORRY ABOUT!
URNK

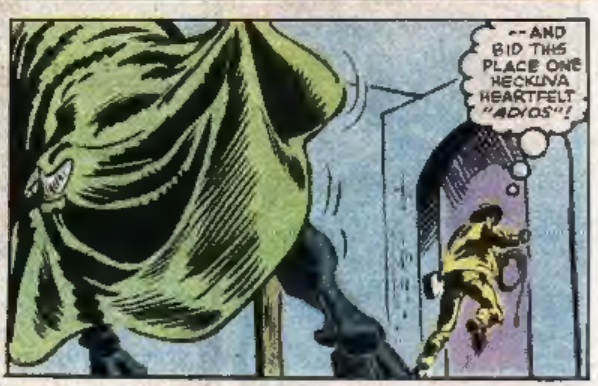
THOUGH THE WAY MY FINGERS ARE SLIPPIN' LOOSE, I DON'T THINK I'LL HAVE THAT PROBLEM VERY--
¡MATA!

--LONG!
KARRICH!

IT TAKES THE ENRAGED BULL MERE SECONDS TO PURSUE ITS QUARRY THROUGH THE SHATTERED DOOR, BUT IN THIS INSTANCE, MERE SECONDS--

--ARE ALL INDY NEEDS!
CHAFRUMMPH
SNARK?


I WOULD'VE PREFERRED A STOREROOM FULL OF BAZOOKAS, BUT THOSE CAPES AND STUFF SHOULD CONFUSE EL TORO LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO GRAB MY BULLWHIP--


--AND BID THIS PLACE ONE HECKUVA HEARTFELT "ADIOS"!

AND SOON, OUTSIDE...
WHATEVER SCAM TORINO WAS PULLIN' ON THE LOCAL TOWNSFOLK MUST'VE BEEN A GOOD ONE.
THE MOB THAT WAS AFTER US IS STILL TELLIN' THEIR STORY TO THE POLICE!

AND SINCE I CAN'T DO TORI ANY GOOD LOCKED UP IN A CELL, I'D BETTER KEEP A LOW PROFILE WHILE LOOKIN' FOR HIM. I'LL HAVE TO BLEND IN, BE AS INCONSPICUOUS AS--

HIYA, GRINGO! NEW IN TOWN?
WHA--

--MARION? MARION RAVENWOOD?!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, TOO, JONES. NOT THAT YOU WERE THAT HARD TO FIND--

--I JUST FOLLOWED THE TRAIL OF COPS AND UNCONSCIOUS BODIES!
BUT WHAT THE BLAZES ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SIMPLE. MARCUS OFFERED ME A JOB--PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.
AND I TOOK IT.

OH, NO!
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE PLEASED, ESPECIALLY SINCE PART OF THAT JOB IS GETTING MAXIMUM PUBLICITY OUT OF YOUR DISCOVERIES.
SO I'LL BE TAGGIN' ALONG ON MOST OF YOUR EXPEDITIONS FROM HERE ON.
STRICTLY BUSINESS, OF COURSE.

SO, WHAT ARE WE AFTER THIS TIME?
"WE"? WELL "WE" ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A SLY LITTLE GYPSY!

OH, YEAH? WIDE-BRIMMED HAT? DARK MUSTACHE? EARRING?
YOU'VE SEEN HIM?
I SAW SOMEONE LIKE HIM WHEN I WAS LOOKIN' FOR YOU. HE WAS BEIN' HERDED INTO SOME KIND OF WAREHOUSE BY FOUR HEAVIES IN BLACK ROBES.
ROBES--? MARION, WERE THESE GUYS WEARING VEILS? CARRYING SWORDS?
WELL, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT--
BLAST! THEY MUST'VE FOLLOWED ME FROM AUSTRALIA, GRABBED TORI WHEN THEY HEARD HE KNEW WHERE THE MAIL WAS, THEN SET THAT BULL ON ME WHEN THEY FIGURED I WAS EXPENDABLE!
COME ON!
WH-WH-WHAT--? WHO--? WH-WHERE--?
IN-DYYYY!
MOMENTS LATER, ON A DOCK BUILT OVER THE SOFTLY LAPPING WATERS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN...
BUT WHAT THE DEVIL ARE "ISMAILI ASSASSINS"?
THEY'RE THE MIDDLE EAST'S EQUIVALENT OF NINJAS. AND THEY'RE GOOD. VERY GOOD.
I SAW THREE OF 'EM TAKE ON A WHOLE TRIBE OF ABORIGINES AND NOT EVEN WORK UP A SWEAT!*
*AGAIN, LAST ISSUE.
THEY WORK FOR A COLLECTOR NAMED AYOOB, A MAN WHO TRIED TO HIRE ME TO FIND AN ARTIFACT FOR HIM. AND IT LOOKS LIKE AYOOB IS USED TO GETTING WHAT HE WANTS, ONE WAY--
"--OR ANOTHER!"
YOU WILL TELL US WHAT WE WISH TO KNOW, SEÑOR TORINO, EITHER BEFORE I DULL MY BLADE ON YOUR WORTHLESS BONES...
...OR AFTER!

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO HELP TORINO OUTTA THIS.
"WE"?
MOVE AROUND BEHIND THE FIGUREHEAD AND TRY TO GET TORI UNTIED.
"I'LL CREATE A LITTLE--
"--DIVERSION!"
SNAP
SSSHHHUMF
INDIANA JONES.
SHHHRIP
SHRAT
CHROP
KILL HIM!
MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA AFTER ALL...!

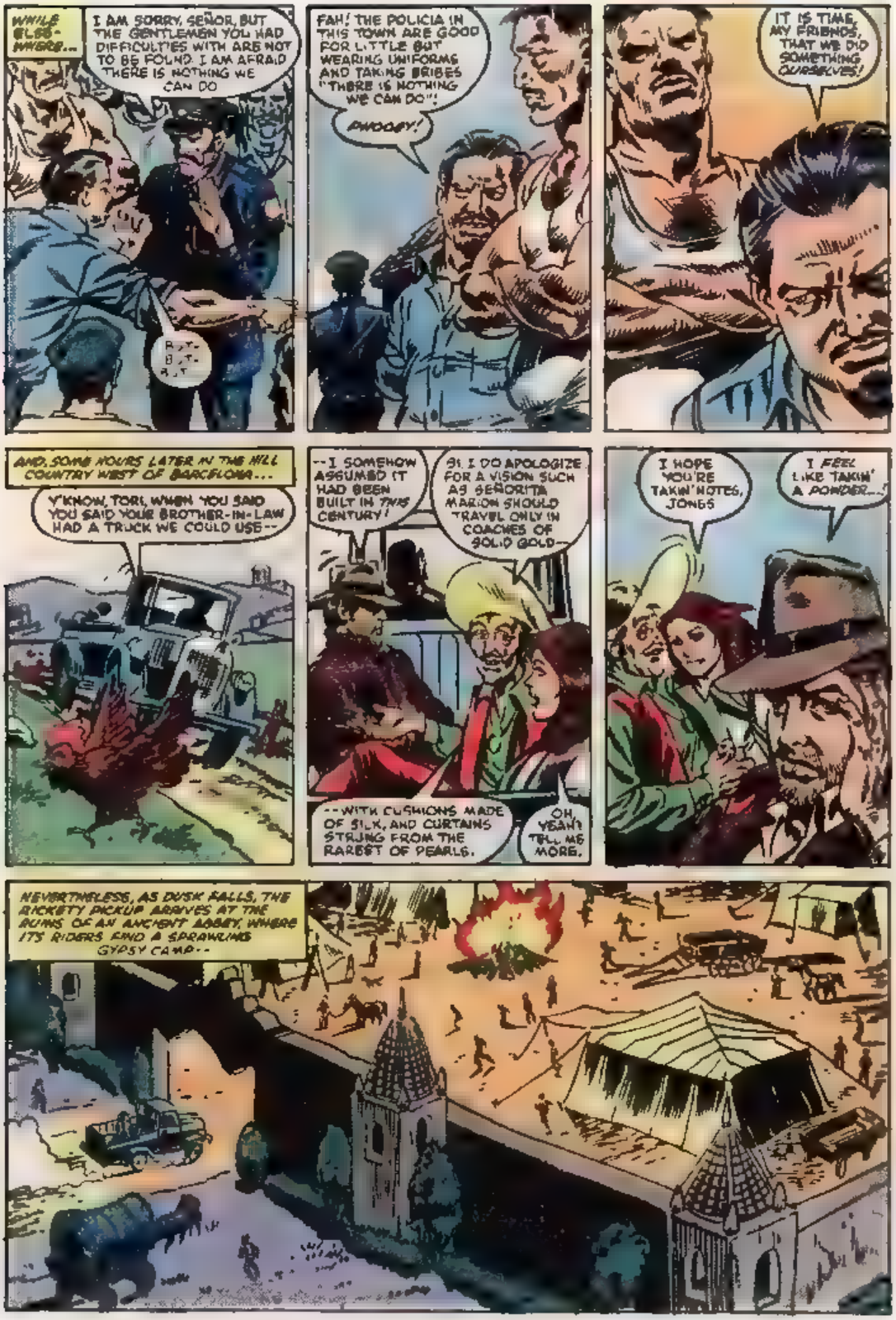
GOTTA KEEP REMINDIN' MYSELF THAT I DON'T HAVE TO BEAT THESE GUYS! I ONLY HAVE TO KEEP 'EM OCCUPIED UNTIL--HUH?
I'VE BEEN CUT! TWICE! THESE ARABS AREN'T JUST GOOD--
--THEY'RE FAST!
MAYBE I'D BETTER FORGET ABOUT DIVERSIONS AND JUST WORRY ABOUT STAYIN' ALIVE!
SWISH
AND THE BEST WAY TO DO THAT IS TO KEEP MY ATTACKERS OFF BALANCE!
"YEAH.
F-TUNP
"RIGHT..."
CARAMBA! I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH FIGHTERS AS THESE! IF I WERE ONLY FREE!
SO I COULD RUN LIKE THE BUNNY!

BUT AS TORINO TUGS AT HIS BONDS --
--AN AGILE ISMAILI DARTS UNDER THE STINGING LASH OF INDY'S WHIP, PLANTING A SOLID KICK--
--THAT KNOCKS THE AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGIST INTO A NOT-SO-SOLID SUPPORT POST!
CRRAK
THE RESULT OF WHICH IS--
--WOODEN RAIN!
KLAKATATHRUMPATAKLAK
HOWEVER, AS A RESULT OF THAT...
IT IS TIME THAT I CONCLUDED THIS MATTER!
AMIGO! LOOK OUT--!

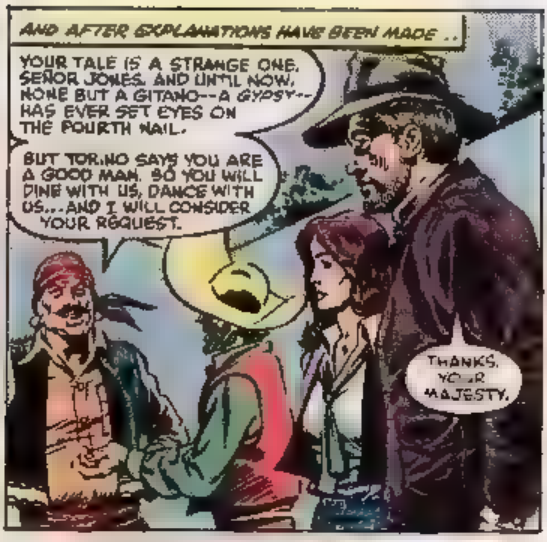
KBLAM
HUH?
A...
BULLET...
HOLE...?
?!
THBUNK!
I FIGURED I'D NEED A LITTLE FIREPOWER IF I WAS GONNA BE PARTNERIN' UP WITH INDIANA JONES
LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT! (PUFF)
BUT THIS CANNON'S GETTIN' KINDA HEAVY -- MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO LUG IT AROUND FOR AWHILE?
THANKS, MARION.
"MARION"? AH, A NAME THAT RIVALS THE BEAUTY OF A STARLIT AUTUMN NIGHT SEÑORITA, AND ONE THAT IS ALMOST AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOUR EYES!
OH, YEAH?
HEY, WHAT IS THIS, A RESCUE OR A FIRST DATE?
PLAY THE LATIN LOVER SOME OTHER TIME, TORI! RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THOSE ISMAILIS COME TO AND HACK US INTO SHARK BAIT!

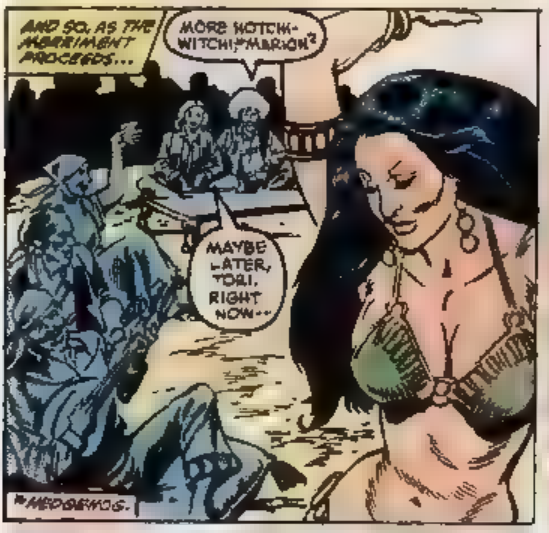
AND INDEED, ONLY MOMENTS LATER...
RASHID OUR LEADER YOU ARE HURT BADLY?
YES. I BELIEVE THE WOUND WILL ULTIMATELY PROVE TO BE--
--FATAL! BUT WE CAN WORRY ABOUT SUCH INSIGNIFICANT MATTERS AFTER WE HAVE COMPLETED OUR MISSION
-FOR THE MASTER!
IN A CAVERN WHOSE WALLS, COVERED WITH UNIQUE EXAMPLES OF PREHISTORIC ROCK ART, PROVIDE ONE OF MANY WORLDWIDE HAVENS
BEN ALI AYOOB ALSO KNOWN AS
MASTER! A MESSAGE
THANK YOU HASSAN I WILL READ IT MYSELF
AH! MY TEAM OF SPECIALISTS IN BARCELONA HAS SUCCEEDED IN CONTACTING THE LOCAL GYPSIES. THEY EXPECT TO DISCERN THE LOCATION OF THE FOURTH NAIL MOST SWIFTLY!
THIS IS EXCELLENT
FOR IT MEANS THAT MY PASSION FOR RARE PIECES OF THE PAST WILL SOON BE SATISFIED! AND IF ALLAH SMILES UPON ME JUST AS MY PHYSICAL THIRST IS SATED BY THE COOL WATER IN THIS GOBLET
--SO WILL BE QUENCHED MY THIRST FOR RETRIBUTION AGAINST INDIANA JONES!

SPEAKING OF WHOM...
HOLD IT WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET!
THE POLICE ARE STILL NOSIN' AROUND
WE'D BETTER FIND SOME PLACE TO HOLE UP 'TIL THEY LOSE INTEREST!
COME! THIS STABLE IS OWNED BY MY UNCLE'S COUSIN' WE WILL BE SAFE HERE!
AND SOON.
HORSE BLANKETS DON'T MAKE THE BEST BANDAGES IN THE WORLD JONES, BUT THEY SHOULD STOP THE BLEEDING -- AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO TELL ME WHAT THE BLAZES THIS WAR WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR IS ALL ABOUT!
SINCE YOU SEEM TO HAVE THE GIFT OF GAB LATELY TORINO WHY DON'T YOU TELL HER?
QUITE SIMPLY SEÑORITA THE FOURTH NAIL WAS ONE OF THE SPIKES ALLOTTED FOR THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS CHRIST BUT BEFORE IT COULD BE USED TO ADMINISTER THE DEATH BLOW IT WAS STOLEN BY A WANDERING GYPSY
SINCE THEN, THE MINOR TRANSGRESSIONS OF MY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN BY A GRATE FUL GOD --
AND THE NAIL HAS BECOME OUR MOST SACRED RELIC CARED FOR BY A SHAMAN CALLED THE ENJUR JAI
I CANNOT TAKE IT UPON MYSELF TO LEAD YOU TO HER BUT I WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR TRIBAL LEADER. IF HE CONSENTS WELL... SO BE IT
BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL. I WAS FOUR BLACK-ROBED JACKALS WHO CAPTURED ME AND THOUGH ONE WAS SENT TO TRANSMIT A MESSAGE, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE --
AW C'MON TOR YOU WORRY TOO MUCH THOSE SMART WERE PRETTY GOOD
BUT EVEN THEY CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE


WHILE ELSE-WHERE...
I AM SORRY, SEÑOR, BUT THE GENTLEMEN YOU HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH ARE NOT TO BE FOUND. I AM AFRAID THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO
BZT-BZT-BZT
FAH! THE POLICIA IN THIS TOWN ARE GOOD FOR LITTLE BUT WEARING UNIFORMS AND TAKING BRIBES. "THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO"!
PHOOEY!
IT IS TIME, MY FRIENDS, THAT WE DID SOMETHING OURSELVES!
AND, SOME HOURS LATER IN THE HILL COUNTRY WEST OF BARCELONA...
Y'KNOW, TORI, WHEN YOU SAID YOU SAID YOUR BROTHER-IN-LAW HAD A TRUCK WE COULD USE--
--I SOMEHOW ASSUMED IT HAD BEEN BUILT IN THIS CENTURY!
SI. I DO APOLOGIZE FOR A VISION SUCH AS SEÑORITA MARION SHOULD TRAVEL ONLY IN COACHES OF SOLID GOLD--
--WITH CUSHIONS MADE OF SILK, AND CURTAINS STRUNG FROM THE RAREST OF PEARLS.
OH, YEAH? TELL ME MORE.
I HOPE YOU'RE TAKIN' NOTES, JONES
I FEEL LIKE TAKIN' A PONDER...
NEVERTHELESS, AS DUSK FALLS, THE RICKETY PICKUP ARRIVES AT THE RUINS OF AN ANCIENT ABBEY, WHERE ITS RIDERS FIND A SPRAWLING GYPSY CAMP--

--AND A WARM, IF SOMEWHAT CAUTIOUS, WELCOME...
WAIT HERE, AMIGOS. I WILL TELL YOUR STORY TO MAXIMILIAN, OUR KING.


AND AFTER EXPLANATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ..
YOUR TALE IS A STRANGE ONE, SEÑOR JONES. AND UNTIL NOW, NONE BUT A GITANO--A GYPSY--HAS EVER SET EYES ON THE FOURTH NAIL.
BUT TORINO SAYS YOU ARE A GOOD MAN. SO YOU WILL DINE WITH US, DANCE WITH US...AND I WILL CONSIDER YOUR REQUEST.
THANKS, YOUR MAJESTY.

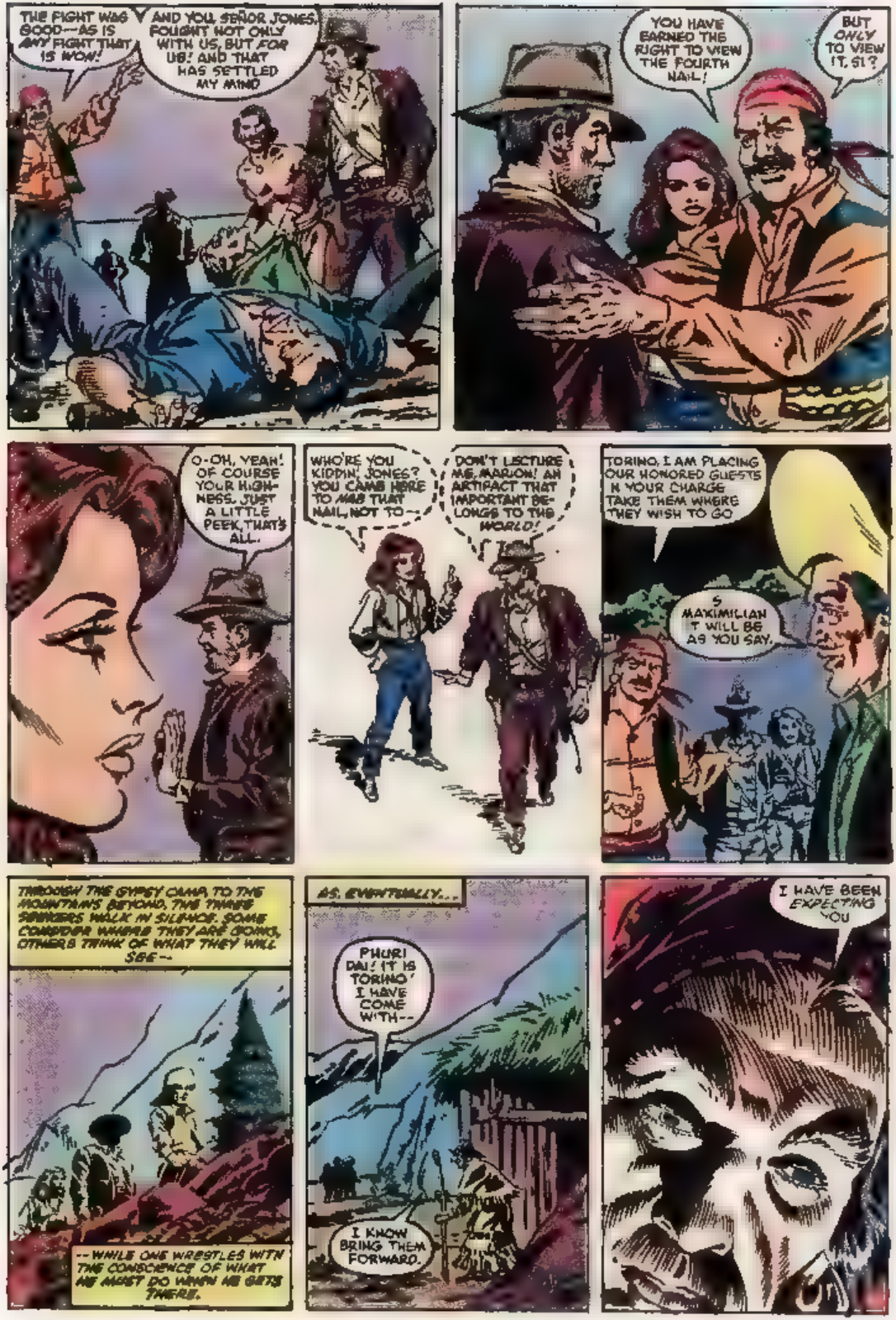

AND SO, AS THE ENTERTAINMENT PROCEEDS...
MORE HOTCHI-WITCHI, MARION?
MAYBE LATER, TORI. RIGHT NOW--
MEDSEMOG.

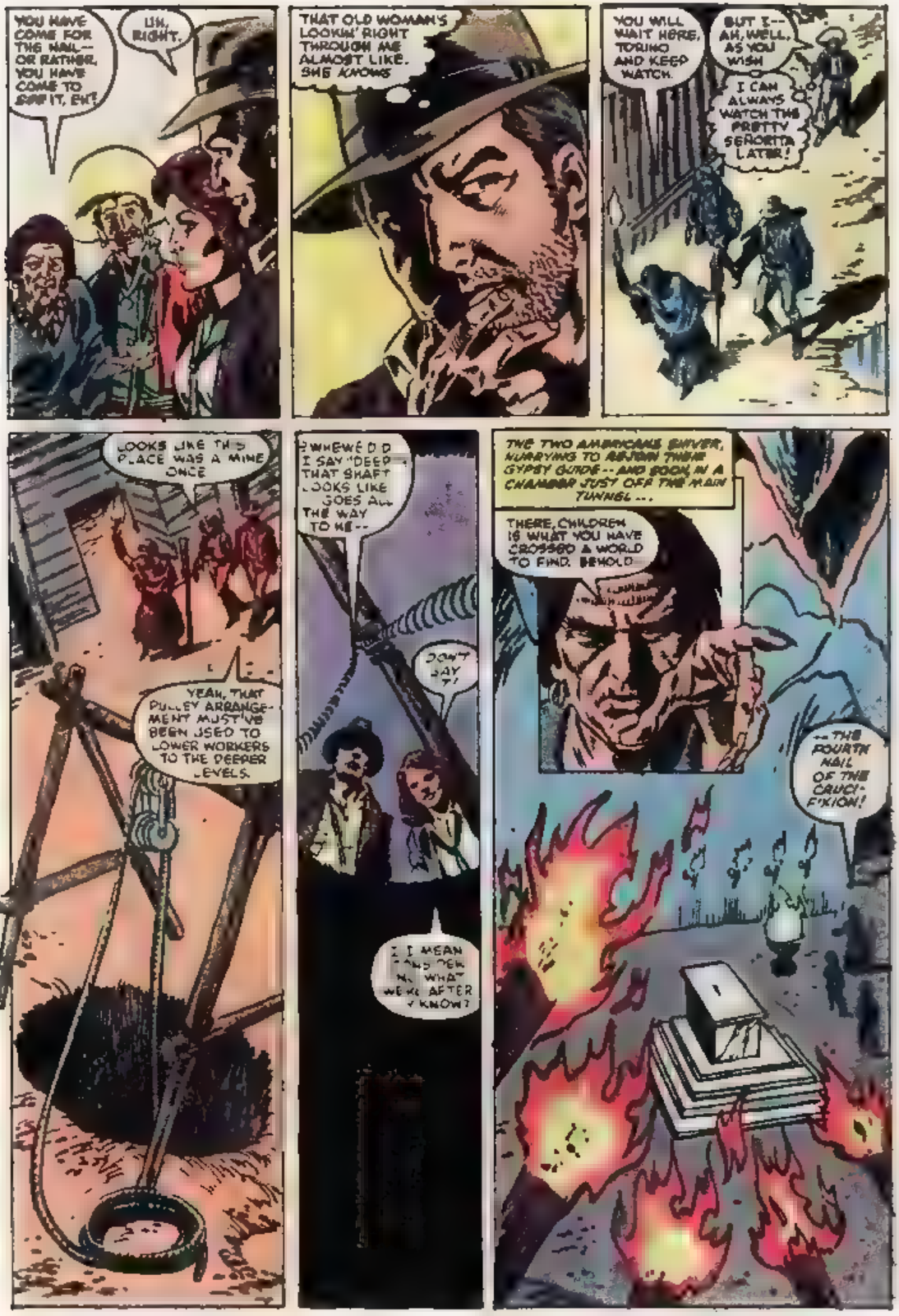
--WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME AGAIN HOW MY SMILE IS LIKE SUMMER MOONLIGHT GLINTING OFF A MOUNTAIN LAKE?
HMPH
FRUIT, SEÑOR? IT IS VERY SWEET
REALLY? I GUESS THAT EXPLAINS ALL THE FLIES.

I HAD THOUGHT THEY'D COME TO CHECK OUT THE FERTILIZER THAT WAS BEIN' SPREAD AROUND!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT
QUICKLY! FIND THE LITTLE GITANO AND HIS GRINGO FRIEND!
EH--?

AND IF ANYONE GETS IN OUR WAY, WE CRUSH THEM, TOO!
INDY! IT IS THE PAISANOS FROM TOWN! THEY FOLLOWED US!
YEAH, NOT TOO BRIGHT, ARE THEY?
UH-OH. THIS IS THE SAME WALKING MOUNTAIN I HAD SO MUCH TROUBLE WITH BACK AT THE CATHEDRAL! I WONDER IF HIS LITTLE TUMBLE THROUGH THE ROOF SOFTENED HIM UP ANY?
WHROK
THERE ARE THREE OF YOU A-AND ONLY ONE OF ME! BUT I WILL NOT GIVE UP! I WILL NOT BEG! I--
--CANNOT LOOK!
SWATCH
SLISH
WELL! WH- WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FO--
DIOS! I I AM BETTER THAN I THOUGHT!


THE FIGHT WAS GOOD--AS IS ANY FIGHT THAT IS WON!
AND YOU, SEÑOR JONES, FOUGHT NOT ONLY WITH US, BUT FOR US! AND THAT HAS SETTLED MY MIND
YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO VIEW THE FOURTH NAIL!
BUT ONLY TO VIEW IT, SI?
O-OH, YEAH! OF COURSE YOUR HIGHNESS. JUST A LITTLE PEEK, THAT'S ALL.
WHO'RE YOU KIDDIN', JONES? YOU CAME HERE TO MAR THAT NAIL, NOT TO--
DON'T LECTURE ME, MARLOW! AN ARTIFACT THAT IMPORTANT BELONGS TO THE WORLD!
TORINO, I AM PLACING OUR HONORED GUESTS IN YOUR CHARGE TAKE THEM WHERE THEY WISH TO GO
S MAXIMILIAN T WILL BE AS YOU SAY.
THROUGH THE GYPSY CAMP, TO THE MOUNTAINS BEYOND, THE THREE SEEKERS WALK IN SILENCE. SOME CONSIDER WHERE THEY ARE GOING, OTHERS THINK OF WHAT THEY WILL SEE--
--WHILE ONE WRESTLES WITH THE CONSCIENCE OF WHAT HE MUST DO WHEN HE GETS THERE.
AS, EVENTUALLY...
PHURI DAI! IT IS TORINO! I HAVE COME WITH--
I KNOW BRING THEM FORWARD.
I HAVE BEEN EXPECTING YOU


YOU HAVE COME FOR THE NAIL-- OR RATHER, YOU HAVE COME TO SEE IT, EH?
UH, RIGHT.
THAT OLD WOMAN'S LOOKIN' RIGHT THROUGH ME ALMOST LIKE SHE KNOWS
YOU WILL WAIT HERE, TORINO AND KEEP WATCH.
BUT I-- AH, WELL, AS YOU WISH
I CAN ALWAYS WATCH THE PRETTY SEÑORITA LATER!
LOOKS LIKE THIS PLACE WAS A MINE ONCE
YEAH, THAT PULLEY ARRANGEMENT MUST'VE BEEN USED TO LOWER WORKERS TO THE DEEPER LEVELS.
WHEW! D'D I SAY "DEEP"? THAT SHAFT LOOKS LIKE IT GOES ALL THE WAY TO HE--
DON'T SAY IT!
I MEAN ANOTHER NAIL WHAT WERE AFTER, Y'KNOW?
THE TWO AMERICANS SHIVER, HURRYING TO REJOIN THEIR GYPSY GUIDE-- AND SOON, IN A CHAMBER JUST OFF THE MAIN TUNNEL...
THERE, CHILDREN IS WHAT YOU HAVE CROSSED A WORLD TO FIND. BEHOLD
-- THE FOURTH NAIL OF THE CRUCIFIXION!

THAT? THAT'S IT?
YOU GOTTA BE K.DDIN'!
THAT'S NOTHIN' BUT A RUSTY OLD RAILROAD SPIKE!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THIS WHOLE THING HAS BEEN A WILD GOOSE CHASE!
PERHAPS, SEÑOR, BUT IT'S A WISE MAN WHO KNOWS THAT ALL TREASURES DO NOT BEAR THE GLITTER OF GOLD
GLITTER OR NOT WITCH-WOMAN--
EH?
WHO
--THAT TREASURE BELONGS TO THE MASTER!
THE SMALLS
STAY BACK MARION!
THIS TIME I'VE GOT THE FIREPOWER TO TEACH THESE JOKERS A LESSON
IF YOU WILL OBSERVE THE MAIN PASSAGE-WAY, DOCTOR JONES I BELIEVE YOU WILL FIND THAT THE RECIPIENT OF THIS LESSON --
--IS YOURSELF
INDY'S
TORINO
I I AM SORR-AMIGOS B-BUT I AM THE LOVER NOT THE WATCH-DOG
SOON INDEED YOU WILL BE
-TH- THE ROPE--!

GOT IT! NO! IT'S GOT ME!
TORI'S WEIGHT IS PULLIN' ME TOWARDS THE PIT!
THEN GET OUTTA THE WAY AND LET ME HANDLE IT! I'M HEAVIER THAN--
BLAST! I'VE GOT THE MASS, BUT TORI'S GOT THE MOMENTUM! HE'S DRAGGIN' ME ALONG JUST LIKE HE DID MARION!
AND WHEN MY HANDS HIT THOSE PULLEYS, THEY'LL BE SHREDDED LIKE MEAT THROUGH A GRINDER!
GOTTA TWIST THE ROPE OVER MY SHOULDER LET MY BACK TAKE THE BRUNT OF--
THRUNK
AIEEH!
PAINFUL BUT I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE!
BUT FOR HOW LONG?
INDY! NOW IT'S YOU WHO ARE FALLING!
THANKS, BUDDY! NOW TELL ME SOMETHIN' I DON'T KNOW!

--WHOOP! HANDS ARE SWEATY-- ALMOST LOST MY BULLWHIP! GOTTA BE CAREFUL! THERE'S ONLY TIME FOR ONE THROW, SO IT'D BETTER BE--
SNAP-RACK
--GOOD!
IT'S OKAY, INDY! TORI'S SAFE!
WONDERFUL
NOW HOW ABOUT ME!?!
MOVE ASIDE, WOMAN! OUR ONLY SOURCE OF OPPOSITION HAS BEEN EL.MINATED! NOW WE WILL HAVE WHAT IS OURS!
THEN TAKE IT FOR I, TOO, AM CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE--
--PRECISELY WHAT IS COMING TO YOU!
LIKE A PRIDE OF HUNGRY PANTHERS, THE FOUR BLACK-CLAD MEN STALK FORWARD--
--AS THEIR LEADER CLOSES SURE FINGERS AROUND A RUSTY IRON PRIZE...
...NOT NOTICING THAT THE MYRIAD TORCHES SPACED ALONG THE WALLS HAVE BEGUN TO FLICKER, AS IF BRUSHED BY AN UNSEEN WIND. NOT NOTICING UNTIL THOSE SAME TENTATIVE FLAMES--
-- WINK OUT COMPLETELY!
AND ARE REPLACED BY...
A GLOW! C-COMING FROM THE NAIL! WHAT--

YOU ALRIGHT, INDY?
SURE. NOTHIN' THAT A MONTH IN AN INTENSIVE CARE WARD WON'T CLEAR RIGHT UP! BUT WHAT ABOUT--
GYYAAHAAGGH!
SCREAMS.
CUTTING LIKE RAZORED ICE.
SLICING THROUGH THE SOULS OF THE THREE LISTENERS WITH A CHILL THAT SOAKS THE MARROW.
FOR THOSE CRIES ECHO NOT ONLY A PAIN THAT TRANSCENDS THE MORTAL--
--BUT A JUSTICE THAT STRETCHES FAR BEYOND HUMAN KEN!
THE ISMAILIS! THEY'RE DEAD! EACH ONE OF 'EM--
--SPIKED THROUGH THE HEART!
WHAT A PITY THEY HAD SO LITTLE TIME TO ENJOY THEIR TREASURE. PERHAPS, MY FRIEND--
--YOU WOULD LIKE IT NOW?
UH, TELL YOU WHAT, SEÑORA, YOU'VE HELD ONTO IT THIS LONG--
--SO WHY NOT JUST KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY, OKAY?
THE PHUNI DAI SMILES SATISFIED.

Bullpen Bulletins

HERE'S THE SITUATION...

I, Editor in Chief and Supreme High Kahuna of Marvel Comics, will be leaving very soon on a month-long trip around the country to attend several of the biggest Comics Conventions of the year. Every single one of the Editors here at Marvel will be going with me. That means no one will be here at the House of Ideas guarding the fort – *except the Assistant Editors!*

They will be in complete charge of one entire *month's* worth of Marvel Comics. For that month, they will be the absolute masters of the Marvel Universe.

And they're up to something! Something... strange.

This is no gag. No joke. Really, honestly, I thought it would be good for our assistant editors to have a real chance on the firing line – to have a shot at wielding the enormous responsibility and power of being editors-for-a-month under actual combat conditions – so I arranged it. Somewhat to my amazement, they're taking it very *seriously!* They see this as their opportunity not to merely caretake the comics for a month, but to do the stories they've always wanted to do! To oversee a month's worth of the wildest, most spectacular, most unforgettable and possibly weirdest Marvel Comics ever published! To *prove* themselves by knocking the world on its ear with every single issue coming out that month!

What month? *Next* month. All Marvel Comics which bear a *January* cover date, which will be on sale next month, in *September*, are the ones to watch for.

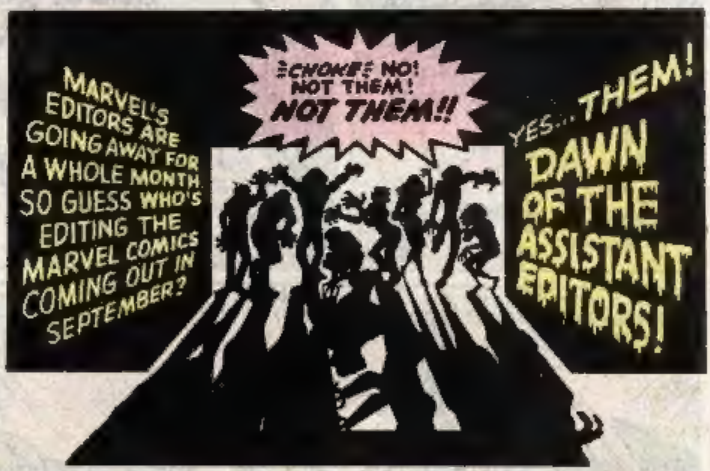
The Assistant Editors have been very secretive about what they have planned, so I can't tell you anything about next month's stories – I honestly don't *know* what they've got cooking. I firmly believe that these issues are going to be one-of-a-kind collector's items, though, and if I were you, I wouldn't miss *any* of next month's issues. I don't say that lightly, by the way. If you read this column regularly, you know that I don't hard-sell anything, and rarely even give a plug. I leave the hype for the Hype Box. This is an unusual circumstance, though, I think. Assistant Editors Month has really grown from an innocent little educational exercise into an *event!*

Okay, enough about that. You've been advised – or *warned*, depending upon how you look at it.

By the way, Editor Mark Gruenwald's assistant Mike Carlin asked me to run the ad which appears below. So there it is!

Stay well.

P.S. Being that I'll be away for a month, the next Bullpen Page will be written by *my* assistant-and-secretary, Lynn Cohen! I'll be back writing this, the most-widely-read page in comics the following month! See you!


MARVEL'S EDITORS ARE GOING AWAY FOR A WHOLE MONTH. SO GUESS WHO'S EDITING THE MARVEL COMICS COMING OUT IN SEPTEMBER?
EEK! NO! NOT THEM! NOT THEM!!
YES... THEM!
DAWN OF THE ASSISTANT EDITORS!

THE HYPE BOX

MAGIK (Storm and Illyana Limited Series) #1 — Attention X-MEN lovers! This is the one you've been waiting for! The most bizarre Limited Series you'll ever read, as **Storm, Kitty Pryde, Nightcrawler,** and Colossus' sister, **Illyana Rasputin,** are trapped in the demon-lord **Belasco's** dark dimension! It's written by CHRIS CLAREMONT, with art by JOHN BUSCEMA and TOM PALMER. We predict it's gonna be the most talked about Limited Series since **Wolverine's!** How can you resist?

KA-ZAR #29 — Could there be a better place to hold a wedding than the beautiful and exotic land of Pangea? Well, yes. Virtually *anyplace*, if you don't want to be interrupted by the hell-spawn **Belasco!** (He *does* get around, doesn't he?) Are those wedding bells we hear tolling for **Ka-Zar** and **Shanna**, or funeral bells? A special double-sized spectacular brought to you by MIKE CARLIN, RON FRENZ, and ARMANDO GIL. And, for one issue only, it's available at newsstands as well as comics specialty shops, so there's no excuse for missing this one!

X-MEN #178 — You got a small taste of his work last issue, but here's the real thing: the eagerly anticipated pencils of the X-MEN's newest artist, JOHN ROMITA JR! That's right, Marvel's hottest young talent tackles Marvel's favorite team book. Along with writer CHRIS CLAREMONT and inker BOB WIACEK, he brings you an incredible story of giant squids and a honeymoon in outer space. Destined to be a milestone!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **THE THING #6**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #201**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #10**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #75**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #125**
- ☐ **RETURN OF THE JEDI #3 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **THE FALCON #2 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #29**
- ☐ **RED SONJA #3 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **KULL THE CONQUEROR #3 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION #2 (Limited Series)** – More sensational reprints of the original **Moon Knight** epics, from **The Hulk Magazine.**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #247**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #288**
- ☐ **THOR #338**
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #12**
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #62**
- ☐ **HAWKEYE #4 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **MAGIK (Storm and Illyana Limited Series) #1** – See Hype Box.
- ☐ **U.S. 1 #7 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **S.H.I.E.L.D. Special Edition #1** – First of two issues reprinting the classic **Steranko** *S.H.I.E.L.D.* stories.
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #290**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #238**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #183**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #158** — Reprinting **Amazing Spider-Man #20** by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, "The Coming of the Scorpion."
- ☐ **RON #49**
- ☐ **X-MEN #176**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #100**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #18**
- ☐ **CLOAK & DAGGER #3 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #281**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #136** — Spider-Man and Wonder Man
- ☐ **IRON MAN #177**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #85**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #5**
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #12**
- ☐ **WHAT IF #42**
- ☐ **KRULL #2 (Limited Series)** – The concluding chapter of Marvel's adaptation of the Columbia Pictures space fantasy smash!
- ☐ **X-MEN CLASSICS #1 (Limited Series)** – Re-presenting the history making ROY THOMAS/NEAL ADAMS **X-Men** adventures!
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS SPECIAL EDITION #1 (Limited Series)** – First of six issues reprinting BILL MANTLO and MICHAEL GOLDEN's classic early **Micronauts** sagas.
- ☐ **THE PUNISHER #1 (Limited Edition)** – Reprinting, for the first time in color, some of **the Punisher's** first, most explosive adventures.

MARVEL ANNUALS

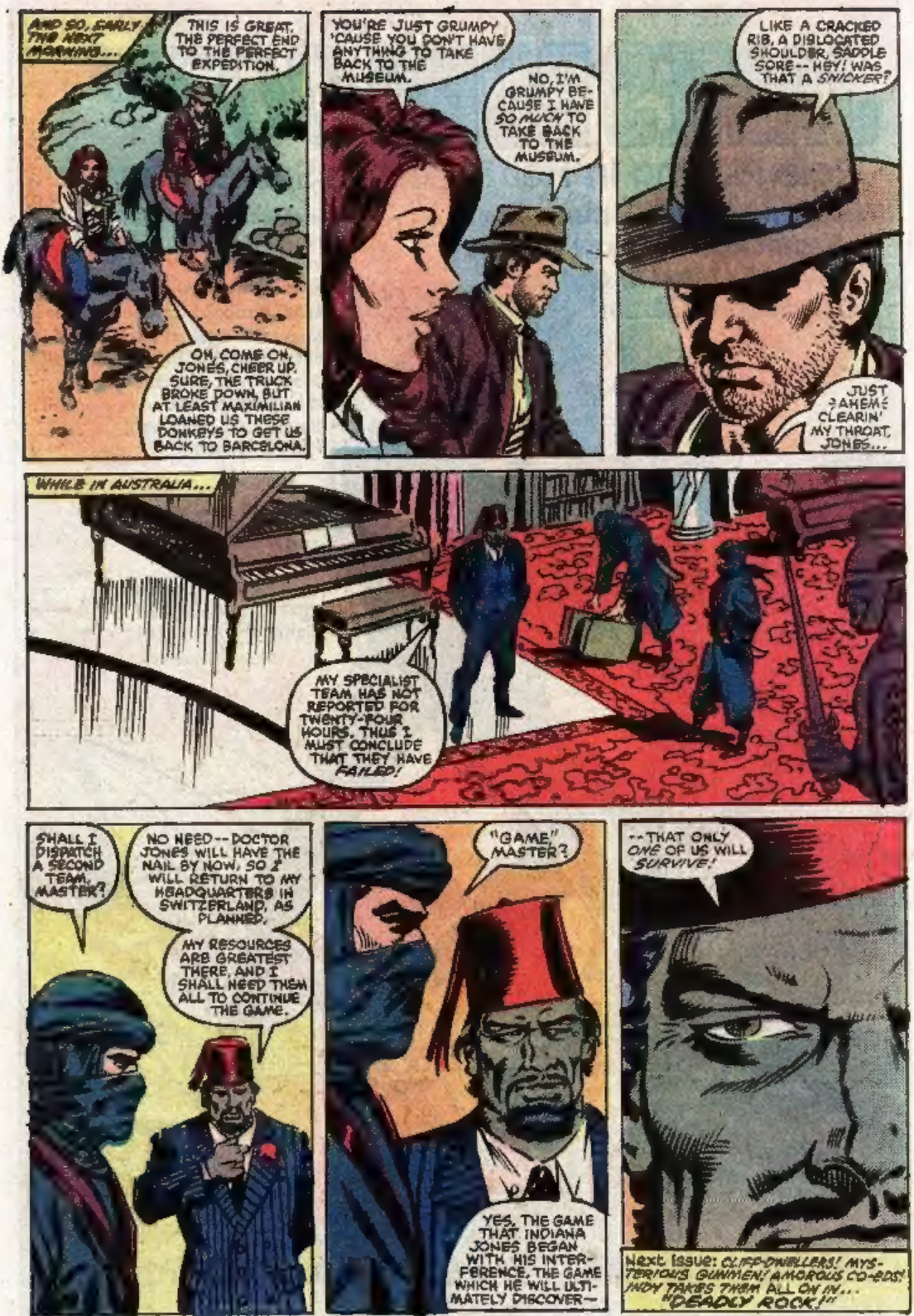
- ☐ **STAR WARS ANNUAL #3** — **Darth Vader** finds a disciple eager to learn the ways of the force. By JO DUFFY and KLAUS JANSON.
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #17** – Peter Parker's High School reunion. By ROGER STERN, BILL MANTLO and ED HANNIGAN.

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #94**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #9**

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **EPIC ILLUSTRATED #20**
- ☐ **COYOTE #4**
- ☐ **DREADSTAR ANNUAL #1** – For the first time in full color – JIM STARLIN'S "The Price."


AND SO, EARLY THE NEXT MORNING...
THIS IS GREAT. THE PERFECT END TO THE PERFECT EXPEDITION.
OH, COME ON, JONES, CHEER UP. SURE, THE TRUCK BROKE DOWN, BUT AT LEAST MAXIMILIAN LOANED US THESE DONKEYS TO GET US BACK TO BARCELONA.
YOU'RE JUST GRUMPY 'CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TAKE BACK TO THE MUSEUM.
NO, I'M GRUMPY BECAUSE I HAVE SO MUCH TO TAKE BACK TO THE MUSEUM.
LIKE A CRACKED RIB, A DISLOCATED SHOULDER, SADDLE SORE-- HEY! WAS THAT A SNICKER?
JUST AHEM CLEARIN' MY THROAT, JONES...
WHILE IN AUSTRALIA...
MY SPECIALIST TEAM HAS NOT REPORTED FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. THUS I MUST CONCLUDE THAT THEY HAVE FAILED!
SHALL I DISPATCH A SECOND TEAM, MASTER?
NO NEED-- DOCTOR JONES WILL HAVE THE NAIL BY NOW, SO I WILL RETURN TO MY HEADQUARTERS IN SWITZERLAND, AS PLANNED.
MY RESOURCES ARE GREATEST THERE, AND I SHALL NEED THEM ALL TO CONTINUE THE GAME.
"GAME," MASTER?
YES, THE GAME THAT INDIANA JONES BEGAN WITH HIS INTERFERENCE, THE GAME WHICH HE WILL ULTIMATELY DISCOVER--
--THAT ONLY ONE OF US WILL SURVIVE!
Next Issue: CLIFF-DWELLERS! MYSTERIOUS GUNMEN! AMOROUS CO-EDS! INDY TAKES THEM ALL ON IN... "DEADLY ROCK!"

READERS OF THE LOST ARK

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

Dear Marvel,

Hi! I'm just writing to tell you how glad I am that I decided to subscribe to THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES. At first I was hesitant to send in my subscription because I really loved the movie, "Raiders Of The Lost Ark", and, well (if you'll forgive me for saying this), I thought the comic would be a dud. BOY, WAS I WRONG!!

This series is great – with a capital "G"! You've totally captured the heart and spirit of our favorite archeology professor and shown us sides of him that we've never known about, and I'm glad. The art is fantastic. If I didn't know better, I'd swear I was looking at a picture of Harrison Ford in each panel. And the writing – marvelous! You guys should be helping George Lucas script some of his movies!

But what I really wrote about (besides telling you how much I adore your work) are issues 7 and 8. What can I tell you? These were the best cliffhangers I've read in a long time. Marion's back and I'm glad – I was beginning to miss her. Indy seems kind of lost without her and I hope she can remain as his permanent partner.

Well, gotta run. I have to go see if the next issue of TFAOIJ has arrived. So, until Indy runs out of things to do with a bullwhip, make mine MARVEL!

Rowena Filart
36 Jenny Wrenway
Willowdale, Ont. Canada
M2H 2y9

Thanks for the kind words, Rowena. As you can see from our story this issue, Marion Ravenwood is back to stay. And as you can see from the following missives, a lot of people are whip-crackin' happy about it!

Dear Marvel,

I was very impressed to see Marion Ravenwood back alive and well. I hope to see more of her. I really love Indiana Jones' adventures. Keep up the awesome work!

Sam
1511 Ayers Rd.
Concord, CA 94521

Dear Marvel,

I think THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES is super! It's the best comic I've ever read! (Honest!) I've collected every issue and I think every one of them is superb. I am also very glad that you brought back Marion Ravenwood. It helps the comic a lot. Hope to see more good comics – keep up the superb work!

Philip Hunt
21319 Forest Glade
Humble, TX 77338

Dear Marvel,

Boy! I must say you sure are doing a bang-up job on INDIANA JONES. I wait eagerly each month for his latest adventure. I am a great fan of Harrison Ford and I didn't think Marvel could bring his vivid portrayal of Dr. Jones to paper. But you did, and excellently at that. I just finished issue #80, and it was as exciting as #1-7. But please, I do have one complaint – Marion's eyes. Please make sure they stay their original color. They're green, not brown as in issue #7. Otherwise, the characters of Indy and Marion are true to form. You are keeping "Raiders" alive for me – *please don't ever stop!*

Karen Lauria
36 Hampton St.
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Okay, we won't! And as for bringing the "Raiders" characters from film to paper, read on...

Dear Marvel,

I really liked the movie, "Raiders Of The Lost Ark", and I also liked your comic book adaptation of it. But when I saw THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES at my local newsstand, I didn't think it would even compare to "Raiders". Well, congratulations Marvel, you did a great job! I would also like to congratulate the whole crew who makes Indy what he is today.

Junior Esparza
P.O. Box 366
Ignacio, CO 81137

Dear David, Kerry, Sam and Louise,

With INDIANA JONES #8 you've established, hopefully once and for all, the proper style and direction for this book to take, with the most thoroughly thought-out and satisfying story since the movie itself. Congratulations!

Michael Kantarovich
59 Jewett Lane
P.O. Box 51
Hollis, NH 03049

Dear Marvel,

I'm writing you to thank you for your new stories, THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES. I've been a big fan of "Raiders Of The Lost Ark" ever since it first came out. I've seen it 32 times now and I'm glad I can follow Indy's further adventures through your wonderful comic books. Thanks for bringing back Marion Ravenwood. I hope her relationship with Indy won't change – I like them just the way they are. Please don't stop TFAOIJ. Indy is so great, so cute, so intelligent, so courageous, so sympathetic, so ambitious, so lovable and almost unstoppable! I'll keep buying your comics as long as you keep publishing them. And by the way, issues #7 and #8 were Marvelous! Keep up the wonderful work!

Chantal D.
736 Juillet
Canada

Dear Raiders,

It's hard to describe THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES in mere words. But I'll try. The INDIANA JONES comic reminds me so much of one of my favorite movies, "Raiders Of The Lost Ark". The scripts, the art, the action, the characters, the entire comic – all stupendous. It rivals MOON KNIGHT as my all-time favorite. Keep up the great work. I'll sure continue to buy this masterpiece.

Adam Garis
4208 112 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada

I guess we're doing something right. In fact, judging from the amount of mail we've been receiving, we must be doing *a lot* right! but even though TFAOIJ gets lots of mail, we can never get too much input from our readers. So why don't you write us? The address is at the top of this page. Your letter will be read and your opinions considered. Who knows, it might even get printed – like the following...

Dear Raiders,

I just loved issue #8, but I do have a suggestion: maybe you could have some of Indy's old enemies from "Raiders" brought back. How about that, guys?

Andy Hultquist
1140 Albemarle St.
St. Paul, MN 55117

Actually, Andy, that would be kind of difficult since Toht, Belloq, Deitrich and most of the other villains were killed at the end of the movie. We did, however, feature Toht's sister, *Ilsa*, in issues #9-10, and will be scheduling reappearances of some of Indy's newer adversaries – Melver, Ayoob and maybe even the ostensibly blown-up Solomon Black – in future issues.

Dear Marvel,

I just picked up number 8 of THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES, and I loved it! It had a great story by David Michelinie and great art by Kerry Gammill and Sam De La Rosa, especially the cover. I'm a great fan of Indy's, and really liked issue #8. The best part was when the Atlanteans entered the scene, but the whole issue was fantastic. I love this series, so please don't let it end too soon.

David Pershan
87 Rutledge Dr.
Red Bank, NJ 07701

We won't, David. As far as we're concerned, TFAOIJ can go on forever!

KAZAR
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